Shaping a Sustainable Future.
We embarked on a mission

- By merging three leading universities in 2010, Aalto was founded to work as a societally embedded, innovative research university for a better world
- Aalto has a national mission to strengthen Finland’s innovative capacity through first-class research and education
Together, we have come far

- We have successfully brought together science, technology, art, and business to become a forerunner in our key areas
- Our campus has rapidly grown into a world-class collaboration hub
- We have transformed into one of Europe’s most international universities
Our current strengths

- Excellence and increasing impact on our chosen key areas in research, art and education
- A unique combination of collaborating disciplines
- Extensive co-creation with partners
- An internationally prominent start-up ecosystem
- A courageous, low-hierarchy culture with empowered students
Major trends shaping us

- The global sustainability crisis
- Technological disruptions and transformation of working life
- Global economic and political centre of gravity shifting towards Asia

- The changing landscape of higher education: increasing demand and competition, digitalisation, pressure on funding
We have adopted a living strategy approach tailored for a world in motion.

Our purpose, values, and way of working define our long-term direction.

We choose development areas and actions that best drive us towards our purpose.

As a community, we pro-actively and continuously re-evaluate our choices.
Purpose

Shaping a sustainable future

Research
We excel and make breakthroughs in and across science, art, technology and business.

Education
We spark the game changers of tomorrow.

Impact
We generate knowledge-based and innovative solutions to tackle global grand challenges. We renew society with creativity and entrepreneurship.

Values

Responsibility

Courage

Collaboration

Ways of working

Working for a better world, we act sustainably for the wellbeing of all.

Taking on challenges with creativity and passion, we aim high.

Diversity is part of who we are and we foster a community that shines by working together.
SHAPING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

**PURPOSE**

- **Research**
  Breakthroughs in and across science, art, technology and business

- **Education**
  We spark the game changers of tomorrow

- **Impact**
  Innovative solutions to tackle global grand challenges

**Focus of development**

- **Driving excellence**
  World-class clusters of excellence, bringing talent together

- **Future-led learning**
  Greater societal responsibility in degree education and continuous learning with empowered student experience

- **Inspiring ecosystem**
  Building a globally prominent ecosystem

**Solutions for sustainability**
Using our strengths to tackle global challenges

**Radical creativity**
Globally leading community for new thinking

**Enabling our success**
We invest in our community & people, infrastructures & campus, and services

**VALUES AND WAYS OF WORKING**

- **Responsibility**
  We act sustainably for the wellbeing of all

- **Courage**
  Taking on challenges with creativity and passion, we aim high

- **Collaboration**
  A diverse community that shines by working together
We excel and make breakthroughs in and across science, art, technology and business.

Focus of development: Driving excellence

We create world-class clusters of excellence in our key research areas and bring complementary talent together to work on grand challenges.

Actions: Attracting and fostering talent, developing selected research infrastructures, new collaboration across fields.
Focus of development: Future-led learning

We take greater societal responsibility in degree education and continuous learning in and across our key areas. We elevate student experience and quality of learning.

Actions: Renewing educational offering, developing our digital and engaged learning environment, integrating sustainability and multidisciplinary studies into programmes, advancing learning-centricity, focusing on holistic wellbeing.
Focus of development: Inspiring ecosystem

As a community of faculty, staff, students, alumni and partners, we build our innovation, creative and entrepreneurial ecosystem to become a prominent node in global networks.

Actions: Advancing entrepreneurial culture, developing global and local networks, building a sustainable and thriving campus

We renew society with research-based knowledge, creativity and entrepreneurship. We generate innovative solutions to tackle global grand challenges.
Our two cross-cutting approaches to tackle grand challenges

Focus of development: We develop solutions for grand challenges and inspire creativity in and across our key areas.

Solutions for sustainability

Actions: Connecting our strengths to create solutions for grand challenges, pioneering sustainable solutions in our operations

Radical creativity

Actions: Inspiring creativity to build a globally leading community for new thinking, building the spaces and practices to empower us to break boundaries and create novel perspectives
Enabling our success

Focus of development: We invest in our community & people, infrastructures & campus, and services.

Community & people
Actions: Developing our culture of inclusion, curiosity, collaboration and wellbeing as our competitive edge.

Infrastructures & campus
Actions: Investing in open, state-of-the-art physical & digital infrastructures as long-term assets.

Services & resources
Actions: Building dynamic service solutions and data-driven operations. Strengthening our financial resilience.
Shaping a Sustainable Future.
Shaping a sustainable future

Purpose

Research
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Education
We spark the game changers of tomorrow.

Impact
We renew society with research-based knowledge, creativity and entrepreneurship. We generate innovative solutions to tackle global grand challenges.

Focus of development

Driving excellence
We create world-class clusters of excellence in our key research areas and bring complementary talent together to work on grand challenges.

Future-led learning
We take greater societal responsibility in degree education and continuous learning. We elevate student experience and quality of learning.

Inspiring ecosystem
As a community of employees, students, alumni and partners, we build our innovation, creative and entrepreneurial

Enabling our success
We invest in our community & people, infrastructures & campus, and services.

Radical creativity
We inspire creativity in and across our key areas.

Values & ways of working

Responsibility
Working for a better world, we act sustainably for the wellbeing of all.

Courage
Taking on challenges with agility, creativity and passion, we aim high.

Collaboration
Diversity is part of who we are and we foster an empowered community that shines by working together.
References

- A comprehensive, international peer evaluation of Aalto University’s research quality (RAI 2018)
- Aalto University is recognised as a globally leading young university (QS top 50 under 50, 2020)
- MIT, JRC and EUA have recently portrayed the entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystem evolving around the university as an international role model
- Aalto University is recognised as one of Europe’s most international universities (THE 2019)
- Examples of Aalto University’s distinctive research excellence
- Key figures and reports from 2018
- An overview of Aalto University’s position in international rankings